The A. F. of L. Weekly News Service gives news accounts and editorial interpretations of matters affecting labor occurring in the industrial, legislative, and judicial fields, and contains other information of benefit to the trade union movement.

AMERICAN FEDERATION OF LABOR

WEEKLY NEWS SERVICE

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Samuel Gompers said:
It is a matter of justice that there should be equal pay for equal work.

WHOLE NO. 2069 | WILLIAM GREEN, *President* | WASHINGTON, D. C., TUESDAY, DECEMBER 5, 1950 | GEORGE MEANY, *Secretary-Treasurer* | VOL. 40, NO. 49

New California Chief

Washington.—Thomas Pitts (left), Los Angeles, new president of the California Federation of Labor succeeding Rep. John F. Shelley, and Paul Scharrenberg (right), director California State Department of Industrial Relations, discuss defense manpower with Assistant Secretary of Labor Ralph Wright, AFL representative in the U. S. Labor Department, during 17th national conference on labor legislation.

Western America's Farm and Maritime Workers Fight For Better Conditions

By John F. Henning
San Francisco Correspondent, AFL News Service

San Francisco.—The storied farm and maritime workers of western America featured California labor developments during November as the National Farm Labor Union and the Sailors Union of the Pacific both took direct action for better conditions of work.

The long victimized agricultural workers of California's rich San Joaquin Valley claimed significant attention as the State Federation of Labor moved to the legal support of AFL cotton pickers in Fresno and Kings counties.

Hearings began in the Superior Court, San Francisco, on an injunction sought by the federation against a Fresno County anti-noise ordinance adopted during the October strike of the National Farm Labor Union for higher cotton picking rates.

Specifically, the ordinance prohibits use of a loud-speaker on highways and country roads, and thus eliminates the NFLU caravan picketing technique by which workers were called from the fields in the spacious farm country.

The federation suit also asks $100,000 compensatory damages for the arrest of 12 NFLU members, jailed for violation of the ordinance.

Meanwhile, hearings were delayed on injunctions sought by the federation against 2 similar anti-noise ordinances. Action against Kings County was filed Nov. 8 by C. J. Haggerty, secretary-treasurer of the state federation. The suit is aimed at both Kings County and the powerful Associated Farmers, it also seeks $100,000 in damages for the arrest of AFL pickets.

Both court actions are an aftermath of the October strike of AFL cotton pickers. The strike lasted 3 weeks and did succeed in boosting the picking rate to $3.50 per hundred pounds, an increase of 50 cents over the old rate. The NFLU had asked for a $4 schedule but ended the strike when hit by the legal blows dealt their picketing efforts.

On the waterfront, the Sailors Union of the Pacific won a vital victory when the Division of Appeals of the California Department of Employment ruled that members of the SUP could not be denied unemployment insurance benefits for refusal to accept work with the Military Sea Transport Service.

Charles P. Scully, attorney for the California State Federation of Labor, presented the case of the SUP before the Division of Appeals.

The Military Sea Transport Service is an agency of the United States government, charged with the operation of military transports of the United States army and navy since the consolidation of those services on March 1, 1950.

Donald Gilson, referee, held in part that the sailors were justified in refusing the MST work as not "suitable," since conditions in private employment under SUP contracts were superior. He pointedly commented on "the difference between the approximately $300 total monthly remuneration afforded able-bodied seamen with MSTS and the approximately $450 total monthly remuneration received by able-bodied seamen under union jurisdiction."

In the labor education theater, the first annual state AFL labor press institute proved an encouraging success.

The institute was attended by 75 AFL press delegates from various AFL newspapers and magazines in California.

Roundtable discussions were held in workshop sessions on political reporting, collective bargaining reporting, economic reporting and news page layout.

The institute was jointly sponsored by the State Federation of Labor and the University of California at Los Angeles.

Texas AFL Opposes Sales Tax Attempt

Austin, Tex.—The Texas Federation of Labor warned affiliates that an attempt to pass a "sales tax law" will be made in the January 1951 session of the Texas State Legislature.

"Every one should be on guard against this attempt," Paul C. Sparks, executive secretary Texas AFL, said.

The Texas AFL plans to offer bills to improve workmen's compensation laws and others that will be helpful to the working wage earners.

(Earlier the Pennsylvania AFL announced it would oppose any attempt by that state's 1951 legislature to impose sales or wage taxes.)

GREET JAPAN

Brussels, Belgium.—The executive board of the International Confederation of Free Trade Unions extended fraternal congratulations to Japanese trade unions.

The board adopted a statement welcoming the establishment of the new general council of Japanese Trade Unions, congratulating the millions of Japanese workers who have succeeded in wresting control of their trade union movement from anti-democratic forces, but noting that much remains to be done to achieve complete unification of the movement within the general council.

F. W. Dalley, of the British TUC, who was a member of the ICFTU Asian delegation, will be asked to undertake a further mission on behalf on the confederation to Burma early in 1951.

A grant of 200 pounds sterling was authorized for the victims of the recent earthquake in Assam.

Buy UNION LABEL Xmas gifts
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STRIKE LOSS DOWN

Washington.—Although the number of work stoppages in October 1950 continued at a high level, man-days lost because of them declined about 30 percent.

The U. S. Labor Department's Bureau of Labor Statistics said that new stoppages numbered 525, the same number as began in September. The new October stoppages involved only 180,000 workers, however, as against 275,000 the month before. October idleness was estimated at 2,450,000 man-days as against September's 3,500,000.

SETS RED CROSS GOAL

Washington.—A goal of $85,000,000 for the 1951 American Red Cross fund campaign, March 31, was announced by Gen. George C. Marshall, Red Cross president.

ON POINT 4 BOARD

Washington.—Lewis G. Hines, AFL special representative, is one of two labor spokesmen appointed by President Truman to 12-man Advisory Board on International Development charged with planning program of technical help and assistance under the Point Four program.

First Point Four Projects Approved

(By Cooperative News Service)

Washington.—The first year's appropriation for the Point Four program is equal to just one day's military expenditure in the pre-Korean budget, Ambassador Capus Waynick, acting administrator of the Point Four program, told co-op leaders.

In its first few weeks of operation, Point Four already has completed agreements for projects in Iran, Liberia, Ceylon and several countries in Central and South America, Mr. Waynick told the luncheon meeting sponsored by the Potomac Cooperative Federation.

The ambassador told the co-op people that he expects cooperative methods would be used in many of the projects. The projects, he said, are those asked for by the recipient governments. They are in areas where cooperatives have strong governmental approval and are looked on as the most practical way to solve local economic problems.

AFL to Send Group To Mexico City

Washington.—The AFL will send a delegation to the Inter-American Conference of the International Confederation of Free Trade Unions in Mexico City opening Jan. 8, 1951.

This will mark the inauguration of the ICFTU's regional organization for the American continent.

Between 40 and 60 free trade union organizations in the Western Hemisphere will be represented.

J. H. Oldenbroek, general secretary, and Sir Vincent Tewson, Great Britain, will represent the ICFTU executive board.

The creation of the ICFTU regional organization for the American continent is an important step towards the unity and strengthening of the free trade union movement throughout the American continent.

STUDY NEGRO EMPLOYMENT

Washington.—The National Planning Association's Committee of the South has announced plans for a new study of policies and practices followed by management and labor unions in employment of negroes in the South. George L. Googe, Atlanta, vice president AFL International Printing Pressman's and Assistants Union, is AFL member of the committee.

Made $3 Million Profit, Contractor Forces Costly Suit on AFL Workers

Austin, Tex.—Brown & Root, Houston, Tex., nonunion low-wage contracting firm, made $3 million profit last year, one of its members testified in a union-busting suit which the company has forced on AFL building trades unions.

The Texas State Federation of Labor and the AFL Building and Construction Trades Department in Washington said the legal costs of the suit by Brown & Root to the AFL unions will drain the treasuries of many of them.

The company is asking $98,450 against the AFL Building and Construction Trades Department, Texas State Federation of Labor, building trades councils of Austin, Beaumont, Houston, affiliated local unions, officers and business agents.

The company alleges the damages were suffered because of AFL picketing of their nonunion jobs.

Paul C. Sparks, executive secretary Texas federation, reported that the contractor and the court refused to settle the suit when the federation offered to agree to issuance of an injunction restraining the picketing.

"We said we would agree to this because of the tremendous cost of proceeding with the case," Mr. Sparks said. "Very few if any unions involved can stand to pay the heavy financial burden cast upon them. Under no circumstances would we give up our constitutional rights and would use every lawful means to protest the company's lousy working conditions."

Judge Betts has overruled every union motion to quash or limit the case. He rejected the union offer to accept the injunction even before Brown & Root's attorneys stated their position.

"All of this is simply saying that the attempts of the unions to organize the men working for Brown & Root are meeting with success," comments the AFL Building and Construction Trades Bulletin.

"It is evident from what is going on that the cost of printing the records in the case will be tremendous and beyond the financial resources of many trade unions," the Bulletin said. "The case is being facetiously referred to as the 'Lawyers' Relief Act of 1950.'"

Throughout the whole sorry proceedings, AFL union representatives in Houston continued their picketing of Brown & Root offices. They distributed handbills calling attention to the company's substandard wage in comparison to the union scale.

The company was found guilty of unfair labor practices by the National Labor Relations Board for refusing to bargain in good faith with AFL unions working on the Bull Shoals Dam in Arkansas affiliated with Little Rock, Fort Smith and Springfield Joint Building Trades Council.

Midwestern Delegates

Washington.—President Carl H. Mullen of Indiana State Federation of Labor (left) and President George A. Haberman of Wisconsin State Federation of Labor (right) exchange greetings with Assistant Secretary of Labor Philip M. Kaiser at 17th National Conference on Labor Legislation.

REVERSE CIO

Washington.—The AFL Railway Employes Department successfully administered a complete defeat to a raid by the CIO United Railroad Workers on the Indiana Harbor Belt Railroad Co.

The National Mediation Board dismissed the CIO petition for bargaining elections in 4 crafts for insufficient authorization cards. The AFL Brotherhood of Railway Carmen and Brotherhood of Electrical Workers soundly defeated the CIO union in the other 2 crafts at issue.

CARE Offers Help For Stricken Korea

New York.—The CARE-for-Korea Committee is sponsoring an appeal for funds to send the familiar CARE food and textile packages to the people of Korea in the name of the American people.

AFL President William Green and AFL Vice President Matthew Woll, president of Labor League for Human Rights, a member agency of CARE, are members of the CARE-for-Korea Committee.

The parcels, selected to fill specific Korean shortages, are: food, underwear and socks, woolen suiting, $10 each; woolen blanket, cotton textiles, $7 each; knitting wool, $13.

Distribution to destitute families will be made by CARE representatives on the basis of greatest need. Though donors may specify the kind of package they want to send, it is hoped the majority of orders will be undesignated, so that supplies can best be balanced against the various needs.

Contributions in any amount should be sent to the AFL Representative, CARE-for-Korea Committee, 20 Broad St., New York 5, N. Y. Sums less than the cost of a complete package will be pooled. All donors will receive a CARE receipt, and all contributions are tax-exempt.

Fair Chance For Healthy Personality Every Child's Right, Ewing Asserts

Washington.—A fair chance for a healthy personality.

That is the goal for every American child, Federal Security Administrator Oscar R. Ewing told the opening of the Midcentury White House Conference on Children and Youth Dec. 3.

"If we win that for our children—if we even approximate it—we shall have made an immeasurable contribution to world peace," he said. Insofar as we help our children to achieve this goal, we are raising our own sights as American citizens and as world citizens.

"In 1950, we look at children, with perhaps no greater concern than in previous years, but with increased sensitivity and a new awareness that stems from new understanding." Mr. Ewing listed these child rights:

"He has the right to be wanted, to feel that he belongs.

"He has the right to grow strong in body and free in spirit.

"He has the right to search for truth, to know goodness, to follow after beauty.

"He has the right to feel secure.

"He has the right to feel that his community and his nation belong to him as a citizen, that he is a part of them.

"All, perhaps, that we can do is to wipe out the most blatant and obvious pitfalls—pitfalls that are deep and dangerous and far-reaching on the paths too many children must tread today:

"The pitfall of prejudice and discrimination — which blasts not only the discriminated against, but the discriminator;

"The pitfalls of destitution, illness and ignorance;

"The pitfall of squalor and the blighting indecencies of bad housing;

"The pitfall of educational malnutrition—of the virtual starvation that today faces too many of our schools and the young people they should serve;

"The pitfall of empty time, which confuses true leisure with the dead-on-its-feet vacuum of 'nothing to do.'

"And along with these, their opposite hazards:

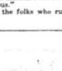
"The pitfalls of overprotection; of overindulgence; of false economic and social standards; of hothouse forcing in education; of mistaking license for self-disciplined freedom; of shoddy moral standards that deny to youth any spiritual foundation for life.

"If each child in America can only—and it is not too much to ask—if each can only do his growing up without running afoul of most of these traps and hazards, then each will, I think, make his own 'fair chance.'"

KNOW YOUR CHARITY

New York.—Give to no organization unknown to you, without investigation, the Russell Sage Foundation recommends.

Help Fight TB



Buy Christmas Seals

Meet NLRB Chairman

Washington.—President Louis A. Marciante of New Jersey State Federation of Labor and executive board member Brotherhood of Electrical Workers (left) and President E. M. Weston, Seattle, of Washington State Federation of Labor (right), chat with Chairman Paul M. Herzog of National Labor Relations Board at 17th National Conference on Labor Legislation.

Profits Tax, Rent Controls Gain Support in Congress

Washington.—Extension of federal rent controls to Feb. 28 at least and enactment of an excess profits tax to raise $4.6 billions gained support in the "lame duck" session of Congress.

The AFL has asked rent control extension until March 31 and an excess profits tax to raise up to $6 billions.

The unfortunate turn of military events in Korea caused the sudden change in congressional climate for these 2 vital defense measures. Sen. Robert A. Taft of Ohio and his colleagues victorious in the Nov. 7 election had indicated that the only thing the short session of the 81st Congress between Thanksgiving and Christmas could do was adjourn.

However, strong support has developed for both rent control extension and a profits tax.

Congress was also expected to pass President Truman's requests for $16,844,247,000 for the armed forces; $1,050,000,000 for the Atomic Energy Commission and $84 million for Tennessee Valley Authority which supplies power for the Oak Ridge, Tenn., atomic plants.

No action was expected at this session though on companion bills introduced in House and Senate to raise the pay of 1,500,000 classified and postal employes in U. S. government service. The bills drawn by AFL government employes unions would grant a 17 percent raise to employes getting up to $5,000 a year and 8 percent to employes receiving over $5,000 a year.

National Conference Endorses AFL Fight on Employment Security Lobby

Washington. — Secretary of Labor Maurice J. Tobin's 17th National Conference on Labor Legislation called on the U. S. Department of Labor to eliminate from its annual budget any items enabling the anti-labor Interstate Conference on Employment Security Agencies to lobby before Congress.

The action takes the same position the AFL 69th convention in Houston adopted last September.

This anti-labor outfit is composed of the state directors of the federal employment security program, financed by U. S. funds. The Interstate Conference has used federal money to lobby against liberalization of the federal social security and unemployment compensation acts.

It was active in obtaining passage of the Knowland amendment to the Social Security Act of 1950 imposing limitations on the Secretary of Labor's authority to supervise administration of unemployment funds.

The National Conference on Labor Legislation called for repeal of the Knowland amendment.

In another resolution it proposed that Congress provide workmen's compensation to apply in case of an atomic attack.

"An effective atomic attack on one heavily populated area, or even a single large industrial plant, could result in so many industrial injuries as to exceed the resources and ability of a self-insurer or an insurance carrier of workmen's compensation insurance to furnish compensation benefits and might well exceed even the powers of an entire state to provide such benefits," the conference said.

The resolution proposed appropriate legislation "so that adequate provisions may be made for protection, medical care, and indemnity to the workmen of this country and their dependents."

A resolution to federalize state employment services was passed over a vigorous dissent. Another resolution urging consolidation in the Department of Labor of all federal mediation and conciliation activities, the National Labor Relations Board and any other related labor functions was approved.

BEAT CIO

Montreal, Canada.—The AFL Textile Workers Local 102 won decisive majorities in bargaining elections at all 4 mills of Montreal's Dominion Textiles to deal a smashing defeat to the raiding CIO textile union.

Despite the fact that the AFL local has been certified bargaining agent at the mills since 1945, when the CIO raiders appeared on the scene in February 1950, the company refused to meet with the AFL negotiators.

Despite the CIO, company and other foes, the AFL Local 102 won and is now stronger and more united than ever.

HONOR GOMPERS

Atlanta, Ga.—More than 30 southern unions United Textile Workers have held Samuel Gompers Centennial celebrations in union halls, schools, movie theaters, other halls and homes in Arkansas, Alabama, Tennessee, North Carolina, South Carolina and Georgia.

The program includes the film strips, "Life of Gompers" and "Labor's Challenge," and recordings of Gerald Marks "Labor Songs."

NO MASS EVACUATION

Chicago. — James J. Wadsworth, acting director National Security Resources Board Civil Defense Office, told the American Welfare Association that there can be no mass evacuation of our great cities in case of enemy atomic bomb attack.

Cornell Officials Need Own Course

Ithaca, N. Y.—Cornell University is the home of the New York State School of Industrial Relations established by the New York State Legislature to foster better labor-management relations.

Yet the New York Times published a story on Dec. 1 headlined "Unionism on Campus Opposed by Cornell."

Local 296 AFL Building Service Employes called a strike Nov. 25 to obtain union recognition and other benefits for 800 maintenance employes. Cornell met the situation in the typical "never-never-land" way of employers giving lip service to trade unionism but never conforming their deeds to their words.

In a statement, Cornell said that it had made its position on collective bargaining clear to the union in 1947. The statement, signed by John E. Burton, vice president for business, said that at that time the union had been told:

"There was no real need for any collective bargaining agreement or a formal recognition of the union since the university staff and officers were ready and willing at all times to discuss employment problems with any employe or group of employes."

Cornell can increase its income only by increasing tuition charges, but the university seeks to avoid such increases, the statement said, adding:

"Conventional trade unionism does not fit the circumstances of a university campus. The (present) unionization drive threatens to split the campus and negate a vitally important effort made throughout the decades to maintain harmonious and reasonably equal conditions all over the campus."

Maybe the folks who run Cornell ought to take their own course of study.

New Digest Offered Of U. S. Labor Laws

Washington.—A new quick reference to the important federal labor laws and regulations of general application is now available in the Labor Department's Bureau of Labor Standards Bulletin No. 123, "Federal Labor Laws and Agencies."

Information of government agencies and services available to management and labor in the field of working conditions and labor relations is also included in this bulletin, which supersedes the bureau's Bulletin No. 100, published in 1948, and brings up to date the material contained in that publication.

Citizens generally, as well as representatives of labor and management who are responsible for making good industrial relations a part of daily plant operations will find this bulletin useful. The brief and nontechnical summaries contained in this publication are designed to furnish general information and are not official interpretations of any of the acts or regulations. The administrative agency should be referred to for detailed information.

Copies in limited quantities are available, so long as the free supply lasts, from the Bureau of Labor Standards, U. S. Department of Labor, Washington 25, D. C. Sales copies may be purchased from the Superintendent of Documents, Government Printing Office, Washington 25, D. C., for 30 cents each. A 25 percent discount is allowed on orders for 100 or more.

NEPH WEEK SUCCESS

Washington.—Admiral Ross T. McIntire, chairman President's Committee on National Employ the Physically Handicapped Week, said the 1950 observance was highly successful because of the cooperation of labor, management and public.

Join
MARCH of DIMES
JANUARY

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AMERICAN FEDERATION OF LABOR
WEEKLY NEWS SERVICE
SUPPLEMENT

Samuel Gompers said:
We aim to establish a normal workday, to take the children from the factory and the workshop and give them the opportunity of the school, the home, and the playground.

William Green, *President* — WASHINGTON, D. C., FRIDAY, DECEMBER 8, 1950 — George Meany, *Secretary-Treasurer*

Go-Ahead Given Child Program by Truman

Washington.—President Truman urged the nation to "press right ahead" with ways to help children and young people to become mentally and morally stronger, and to make them better citizens.

This is "more important now than ever," he said in a speech before the Midcentury White House Conference on Children and Youth, which was attended by upwards of 30 AFL officials from all over the country.

Mr. Truman said in part:

"Our teachers—and all others who deal with our young people—should place uppermost the need for making our young people understand our free institutions and the values on which they rest. We must fight against the moral cynicism—the materialistic view of life—on which communism feeds.

"We must teach the objectives that lie behind our institutions, and the duty of all our citizens to make those institutions work more perfectly. Nothing is more important than this.

"And nothing this conference can do will have a greater effect on the world struggle against communism than spelling out the ways in which our young people can better understand our democratic institutions, and why we must fight, when necessary, to defend them.

"When the White House conference was held in 1940, the nature of the defense problems which lay ahead was not very clear to those who participated. But in the years that followed, we found that the defense program created many problems of migration, divided families, working mothers, inadequate housing at defense centers and military camps, lack of community services and of facilities for education and child welfare.

"Today we know much more about these problems, and our recent experience in trying to solve them is fresh in our minds. I know that the work of this conference will give us some important guide lines as to how we can handle these matters best.

"Our defense effort is all-important, but we must do everything we can to see that it does not handicap the lives of children who are affected by it.

"We must remember, in all that we do at this conference and afterward, that we cannot insulate our children from the uncertainties of the world in which we live or from the impact of the problems which confront us all. What we can do—and what we must do—is to equip them to meet these problems, to do their part in the total effort, and to build up those inner resources of character which are the main strength of the American people.

"Individual self-reliance and independence of spirit are the greatest sources of strength in our democracy. They mark the difference between free countries and dictatorships."

PRESIDENT TRUMAN

Washington.—Tells AFL and other delegates to Midcentury White House Conference on Children and Youth to "press ahead" with program to give youth a "fair chance" to develop healthy personality.

AFL Asks Senate Raise House Limits On Excess Profits Tax to $4 Billion

Washington.—The AFL urged the Senate to raise the rates of the House-approved excess profits tax to provide for "an increase of not less than $4 billion at this time."

Arthur A. Elder, consultant AFL Tax Committee, told the Senate Finance Committee that "we are opposed to the amendments made by the House which would reduce the amount of revenue that is to be anticipated from the measure under consideration by approximately $1 billion this year."

The House passed its bill 378-20. It is expected to raise at least $3 billion a year through a 75 percent tax on profits classified as excessive. Excess profits, directly or indirectly flowing from the national defense program, are defined by the bill to be that corporation income in excess of 85 percent of the corporation's average annual earnings during its most profitable 3 years between 1946 and 1949.

"The House proposal to exempt 85 percent of the average base period earnings from the excess profits tax will lead to substantial loss of revenue," Mr. Elder told the Senate committee.

"On the whole, we consider the provisions of the House-approved bill as sound, designed to facilitate administration and to give the maximum consideration to the problems of new corporations and the necessary expansion of established corporations."

Mr. Elder said that the AFL is opposed to further taxes on consumers and a reduction of their purchasing power. He said there has already been a tremendous increase by the 1950 tax revision on individual incomes. Higher prices and the excise and sales taxes at federal and state levels have further reduced workers' income this year.

Gompers Centenary Dinner Set Dec. 13

New York.—The final celebration by the AFL Samuel Gompers Centennial Committee will be a dinner at the Hotel Commodore, 7 p.m., Wednesday, Dec. 13.

The date is the 26th anniversary of the death of Mr. Gompers, founder and first president of the AFL, in San Antonio, Tex., on Dec. 13, 1924.

The centennial celebration began with a dinner in Washington last January to honor the 100th anniversary of the birth of Mr. Gompers in London on Jan. 27, 1850.

Every state in the union has had a Gompers centennial program during the year.

AFL President William Green and Secretary-Treasurer George Meany are honorary chairmen of the New York dinner. The committee is headed by Martin T. Lacey, chairman; Roe Rosen, vice chairman and James C. Quinn, secretary-treasurer.

IAM OFFICER GETS POST

Washington.—P. L. (Roy) Siemiller, Chicago, general vice president International Association of Machinists, was sworn in Nov. 27 as Director of Manpower for the Defense Transportation Administration.

CASS NAMED

Washington.—Millard Cass, assistant to the Undersecretary of Labor, has been appointed as special assistant to Secretary of Labor Maurice J. Tobin and executive secretary to the manpower committees set up to assist the Secretary of Labor on manpower problems.

These committees are Interdepartmental Committee on Defense Manpower, Management-Labor Policy Committee on Defense Manpower and Women's Advisory Committee on Defense Manpower.

CONSULTED ON CONTROLS

Washington. — The Housing and Home Finance Agency has asked the American Federation of Labor to designate representatives to serve with other groups interested in housing on technical advisory committees on credit, production and housing consumer statistics. The committees' job will be to help determine the effect of real estate credit controls on housing.

TO MEET IN BOLIVIA

Geneva.—The government of Bolivia has invited the International Labor Organization to convene the first session of the Committee of Experts on Indigenous Labor of the International Labor Office at La Paz, Jan. 16 to 27, 1951.

Congress Votes Rent Lids to Feb. 28 Sure

Washington.—The "lame duck" Congress voted to extend federal rent controls until Feb. 28, 1951, at least.

The Senate approved an extension only to Feb. 28 but the House, acting to fulfill President Truman's and AFL President William Green's requests, voted an extension to March 31, 1951.

This will enable the more than 1,700 communities still under federal controls, which have taken no action, to act affirmatively to continue the curbs until June 30, 1951, as the present law provides. It will give the 82d Congress a chance to review the situation and decide whether to keep rent controls longer because of the Korean war.

The House and Senate bills now go to conference committees for an agreement on the expiration of the temporary extension.

Greets Cuban President

Havana, Cuba.—Serafino Romualdi (right), AFL international representative for South America, chats with President Carlos Prio of Cuba at the 7th national convention of the Sugar Workers Federation before addressing the convention. At left is Cuba Minister of Labor Arturo Hernandez Tellaeche.

Interests of Labor and Community Alike, Meany Says of TV Needs

Washington.—"The interests of labor and the interests of the broader community are for the most part identical. It is essential in these days and in the days ahead that our common interests should be emphasized and the basis of our differences be understood."

AFL Secretary-Treasurer George Meany stated that premise in a formal statement to the Federal Communications Commission. He urged that the FCC adopt the stand of educators who requested the reservation of a specific percentage of television channels for the exclusive use of education.

"We want our children to learn something more from television than singing commercials," Mr. Meany said.

He traced the efforts of organized labor for better educational facilities and reported on the present broad program of educational activities conducted by AFL unions, including ownership and operation of radio stations.

WCFL, the radio outlet of the Chicago Federation of Labor, has filed an application with FCC for a television channel.

"Unions, as well as management, believe that education is vital to the worker," Mr. Meany said. "A better educated worker is a more productive one. He learns more in a shorter time, performs his tasks better and fulfills a wider role in the general community. Furthermore, in time of national emergency when skilled laborers are at a premium, it is important that a high educational level be maintained so that a full supply of skilled workers is available.

"Through the development of radio and television, the possibilities for providing educational services and information for millions of people have been tremendously expanded. Through their more efficient utilization, information can be taken directly into the homes of shut-ins, into schools and colleges, to the young, to the old, to the housewives and to the many millions who, in the ordinary course of events, would not be able to take advantage of the facilities offered by our educational institutions.

"We believe it to be essential, at this time, to insure the most effective use of television by the public. The initiative and resourcefulness that commercial organizations have demonstrated in developing television merit general approval. However, we feel that commercial interests, as well as public interests, will be further served if outlets are reserved for non-commercial purposes.

"Insofar as existing television frequencies are concerned, it seems to us that the commission has an obligation to insure increased utilization of frequencies for the public good. Certainly, up to this point, the use of television for general educational and community programs has been, to say the least, rather limited.

"It is important for members of labor organizations to obtain information regarding the problems, conditions of work and viewpoint of farmers, businessmen, housewives and governmental and professional leaders. It is no less important that members of such groups should have the opportunity to learn of the experiences, problems and conditions of work and aspirations of the 16 million members of organized labor.

"The interests of labor and the interests of the broader community are for the most part identical. It is essential in these days and in the days ahead that our common interests should be emphasized and the basis of our differences be understood.

"Radio and television have made some contribution to establishing a common basis of understanding.

"The history of the last 25 years, however, has shown that radio has not played the great role educationally that was expected of it. Television offers even broader areas of appeal and possiblities of utilization in developing educational programs. Indeed, there is the real possiblity that radio and television may be used to supplement each other for educational purposes. It is that hope that impels us to urge that the maximum possible provision for the use of television in education be made by your commission."

Mr. Meany said the FCC should provide that sponsorship of educational facilities be encouraged on the widest possible basis; the quality and scope of the educational station should be improved and constantly widened; stations licensed for educational purposes should be required to report on the nature and purpose of the programs offered.

"We of the American Federation of Labor feel that this new and powerful medium should not be handed over entirely to the advertising industry for exploitation as a sales medium," Mr. Meany said. "The government owes a greater obligation to the American people.

"The Federal Communications Commission is the sole guardian of their rights. It should protect the nation's children and its grown-ups from the over-commercialization to which they are now subjected. We want our children to learn something more from television than singing commercials.

"Labor also wants to see the facilities of television made available for the presentation of various points of view on national problems. Existing television stations have failed to provide that kind of forum."

Listen to . . . .

"CROSS SECTION—USA"

A weekly radio forum

FOR LABOR - MANAGEMENT - FARMERS

SATURDAYS, 4:30 P.M., EST

Beginning Dec. 30 ☆ **Over CBS**

Note to Central Bodies: If your local CBS station does not carry this program please request it to do so.

University of Wisconsin Appoints Young to Succeed Schwarztrauber

Madison, Wis.—Wisconsin AFL officials approved appointment of Dr. Edwin Young, assistant professor of economics, to be director of the world-famous School for Workers.

Dr. Young, president Local 223, AFL American Federation of Teachers at Wisconsin in 1949-50, succeeded the late Dr. Ernest E. Schwarztrauber, who died Sept. 15, after serving as school director since its establishment by the Wisconsin State Legislature in 1937.

Dr. Young was born in Newfoundland, grew up in Maine, received his bachelor and master of arts degree from the University of Maine and his doctorate from Wisconsin.

His appointment was recommended by President George Haberman of Wisconsin Federation of Labor; J. F. Friedrick and Robert Strenger, other AFL members of the labor advisory committee. The committee recommended also the appointment of Prof. Vidkunn E. Ulriksson as associate director of the school.

In resolutions on the death of Dr. Schwarztrauber, the university faculty noted that he had been drawn to Wisconsin by Prof. John R. Commons, sponsor of the Wisconsin school, who held that "no scholar or researcher needed to feel ashamed to go to school to such self-made labor intellectuals as Samuel Gompers and to whom the labor movement was one of the main stabilizing forces in the American democracy."

The faculty recalled Dr. Schwarztrauber's experiences:

"As director he met with some difficulties as well as with unusual rewards.

"The statewide program was cancelled by the legislature, but the summer institutes on the campus, in cooperation with the labor organizations of the state and the nation were continued and eventually resulted in a large body of devoted 'alumni' among the rising generation of labor leaders.

"Hundreds of these alumni have declared the few weeks spent in Madison to be among the finest experiences in their lives. They carried away with them the unforgettable image of a man utterly unconscious of his own life of dedication to a cause, who was everyone's trusted friend."

ATTEND UN

New York. — Three hundred members of the AFL International Ladies Garment Workers Union attended the United Nations General Council.

BOOST ENDS STRIKE

Philadelphia.—Local 241 AFL Federation of Technical Engineers, Architects and Draftsmen called off a 3-day strike against RCA-Victor Division, Radio Corp. of America, Camden, N. J., for a 5 percent wage increase retroactive to Nov. 27 and other concessions. The raises will range 10 to 18 cents an hour.

SHOW FILM OFFERED

Washington.—The AFL Union Label Trades Department offers on a loan basis a film strip of the 1950 Union Industries Show held in Philadelphia. White Union Label Trades Department, AFL Building, 901 Massachusetts Ave. N.W., Washington 1, D. C.

Buy Independence Bonds.

New Wisconsin Director

Madison, Wis.—Edwin Young, newly appointed director of the School for Workers at the University of Wisconsin, studies labor publications at his desk. He succeeds the late Ernest Edward Schwarztrauber, who headed the school for 13 years until his death Sept. 15, 1950.

Tobin Sees Few Losses of Jobs In Shift to Wartime Production

Washington. — Secretary of Labor Maurice J. Tobin thinks there will be very little unemployment—and that for only a brief period—caused by the shift of industry from peace to defense production.

He announced a government policy to place defense production and facilities—orders and plants—in relation to available labor supply and creation of regional and area committees to make most effective use of manpower.

Secretary Tobin told a news conference that:

1. He expected very little unemployment and that for a short period as plants change over to defense production.

2. There is no need now for any relaxation of federal wage and hour standards, safety or working rules.

3. No mandatory controls for manpower to direct workers into defense jobs or regulate their transfers are required.

And he knocked down emphatically the report that a Defense Department officer had said the government would deliberately try to create employment in some areas in order to get workers to move to centers where defense workers were needed.

"There is no responsible official in government who will make such a statement because it isn't true," Secretary Tobin said.

He said the policy agreed upon by him and federal departments needed manpower was designed to avoid any large-scale migrations of workers and any extreme dislocations of economic and family life.

Building Trades Secretary Rivers, Friend of President Truman, Dies

Washington. — Herbert Rivers, 62, secretary-treasurer of the AFL Building and Construction Trades Department continuously since 1937 and a personal friend of President Truman, died Dec. 6 at Georgetown Hospital following an operation.

AFL President William Green and Building Trades Department President Richard J. Gray headed the host of AFL officials and colleagues who mourned his passing.

The operation on Mr. Rivers was performed to remedy after effects of injuries suffered a year ago in a Montana automobile accident. He had gone there from the St. Paul convention of the AFL to help local building trades councils negotiate new construction agreements.

Mr. Rivers started work as a hod carrier after a public school education in Kansas City. He climbed upward through union ranks until his word carried influence wherever construction was underway in the United States.

He took out his first union card in 1910 when he joined laborers' Local 264 in Kansas City. When he died he was second vice president of the International Hodcarriers, Building and Common Laborers Union.

Mr. Rivers was active in his union affairs from the beginning. He represented it on the Kansas City Central Labor Union and held various offices in the local.

In 1921 he became Commissioner of Labor in Missouri and it was about that time that his friendship with President Truman was cemented.

While Mr. Rivers was recuperating in Georgetown Hospital a year ago from his accident, Mr. Truman came to see him bearing a large bunch of flowers. The President said the flowers had been grown by his mother-in-law at her home in Missouri. Prior to the visit and afterwards, White House messengers brought flowers to Mr. Rivers' bedside.

At the time of the President's visit, Mr. Rivers said he had known him for more than 30 years and had never failed to support Mr. Truman for public office.

He was the first AFL leader to throw his support behind Mr. Truman's candidacy for the Democratic vice presidential nomination.

After Mr. Truman entered the White House, Mr. Rivers received word to visit there whenever he felt like it.

Mr. Rivers first became secretary-treasurer of the Building Trades Department in 1934, but he resigned a year later to lead a reorganization battle. He was reelected in 1937 and held office without a break since then.

Mr. Rivers was born on a farm near Fountain City, Ind., on Feb. 11, 1888.

He is survived by his widow, a daughter, Mrs. Annabelle Rozgay, Kansas City, and a son, Clifford, Philadelphia.

Funeral services were held Dec. 8 here and the body was taken to Kansas City for burial.

HERBERT RIVERS

Washington. — Secretary-Treasurer of the AFL Building and Construction Trades continuously since 1937. Mr. Rivers, 62, died Dec. 6, following an operation.

Buy Independence Bonds.

GET 11 CENTS BOOST

St. Louis.—Monsanto Chemical Co. has granted an average 11 cents an hour pay boost to 1,700 employes of its Queeny plant represented by Local 16, AFL Chemical Workers, with a further increase of 5 percent effective April 15, 1952.

Help Fight TB

Buy Christmas Seals

NPA Eases Cutback Orders as Job Aid

Washington.—Heeding warnings of AFL and other labor leaders, as well as industry spokesmen, the National Production Authority has softened its orders cutting back use of essential materials to prevent unnecessary unemployment.

NPA has adopted a standard exception clause for its cutback orders which provides:

"In considering requests for adjustments where public interest is prejudiced by the application of any provision of this order, consideration will be given to public health and safety, civilian defense, and to dislocation of manpower and resulting unemployment."

The AFL has been advised that this clause, which first appeared in the Nov. 29 order cutting back the use of copper in civilian goods, will be used in future orders and applies to past orders.

No significant cutback unemployment has yet appeared.

Minton Sees English Bottle-Making Plant

Philadelphia. — Lee W. Minton, president AFL Glass Bottle Blowers Association and co-executive secretary of the Anglo-American Council on Productivity, inspected a plant of the United Bottle Co. during the council's recent meeting in England.

The English company employes 20,000 in its factories. A team from the British glass industry is in prospect to inspect United States glass plants.

Since 1948, 30 teams have visited between America and England with more American teams of labor and management to be sent to Great Britain soon.

The Anglo-American Council has become one of the most important instruments in helping to build up the productive capacities of Great Britain, according to Paul Hoffman, ex-ECA head. It has an equal number of representatives from both labor and management in its American and English divisions.

"Since the last visit of the council to England 2 years ago," Mr. Minton said, "great changes have taken place. Construction is evident everywhere and electric power has become more abundant. The food is much better although rationing in certain foods such as red meat, still exists.

"The work of the council has proven that close Anglo-American cooperation on all levels of the 2 economies is basically necessary if depression is to be avoided, freedom and an ever rising standard of living are to be achieved, and if the dangerous threat of communism is to be overcome."

Anthony Valenti, president AFL Textile Workers, accompanied the American group as a consultant.

British labor leaders serving on the council include Sir William Lawther, president National Union of Mine Workers; Jack Tanner, president Amalgamated Engineering Union; Arthur Deakin, secretary Transport and General Workers Union, and Sir Vincent Tewson, general secretary of the Trade Union Congress.

UNION WINS $10,000

Los Angeles.—Local 266 of the AFL International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union won $10,000 when Anthony G. O'Rourke, garment industry impartial chairman, found that the firm, Jerry Mann, was in "substantial violation" of its contract with the union and ordered it to pay that amount to the union because of its insistence on having garments produced in the factory of a nonunion contractor.